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Date: April 20, 2001

By: Kay L. Gaviglio

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PATENT
Docket No. GC381

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Estell) Group Art Unit: 1652
Serial No.: 09/462,846) Examiner: Steadman, D.
Filed: January 13, 2000)
For: Proteases From Gram-Positive)
Organisms)

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Director of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's requirement that a single elected species be elected, Applicants hereby elect the invention in Group I, claims 1, 4-9 and 13-17, drawn to a microorganism having a mutation or deletion of the gene encoding cysteine protease-1 (CP1) and methods for the production of a heterologous protein using a microorganism having a mutation or deletion of the gene encoding CP1.

Applicants reserve the right to file subsequent applications claiming the non-elected subject matter and do not waive any of their rights or abandon any non-elected subject matter. Applicants have fully and completely responded to the Office Action and have made the required election. This application is now in order for early action.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 20, 2001

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